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NOTES AND QUERIES.

ALGONKIAN WORDS IN AMERICAN ENGLISH. — As a further contribution to the studies of "Algonkian words in American English," allow me to offer the following expression, which I heard a short time ago: "To go a pretty good *hickory*," i. e. to go at a pretty good rate of speed. This was the first time I ever heard it used, and I have been wondering whether the expression is general, either in Canada or the United States.

W. J. Wintenberg.

WASHINGTON, ONT., CANADA.

FÖRNVÄNNEN. — The *Månadsblad* of the Royal Academy of Letters, History and Archæology of Stockholm ceased publication with the volume for 1906. Its place has been taken by *Förnvännen, Meddelanden från K. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien*, edited by Emil Ekhoﬀ. The first volume (for the year 1906) contains 328 pages. Besides archæological, numismatic articles, etc., the following of interest to folklorists are included: —

Boethius (J.), Levander (L.), and Noreen (A.), Modern Runic inscriptions of the Province of Dalarna, pp. 63-69.

Hildebrand (H.), The ascension (*himmelsfärd*) of Alexander the Great, pp. 44-48.

Leijonhufvud (S.), Mediæval formula for blessing food in Gotland, pp. 151-157.

Läffler (L. Fr.), Runic inscriptions on four Danish baptismal fonts, pp. 181-185.

Stjerna (K.), The dragon's treasure in the poem of Beowulf, pp. 119-144.

Pages 299-328 are taken up with the Proceedings, etc., of the Academy.

ORKNEY AND SHETLAND OLD LORE. — The Viking Club (Society for Northern Research) of London, founded in 1892 as the Orkney, Shetland, and Northern Society, has issued *Orkney and Shetland Old Lore*, vol. i, pt. i, January, 1907 (pp. 1-50), and vol. ii, April, 1907 (pp. 51-82); also *Orkney and Shetland Records* (*Diplomatarium Orcadense et Hialtlandense*), vol. i, pt. i (pp. 1-40), and vol. i, pt. ii (pp. 1-32).

The periodical is published under the general title of "Orkney and Shetland Old Lore Series of the Viking Club," consisting of two separate volumes, the "Miscellany," and the "Diplomatarium." The series was established in 1907, for the purpose of "bringing together materials for the history of Orkney and Shetland, as well as of the Norse race in the North of Scotland, from all available sources, whether printed works, manuscripts, archæology, folk-lore, or otherwise; it will be a medium of notes and queries for all interested in these subjects." The series will be issued quarterly, with occasional Special Works. Folk-Lore, Dialect Words, Place-Names, etc., will receive due attention. A translation of Professor Hægstad's "*Hildinakvael*," or Foulfa ballad, by G. F. Black, is in progress. Reprints of rare works, tracts, law papers, etc., will be published. The first two numbers are very promising. A fund of £2000 is to be raised, the interest of which will be used to make special researches into "dialects, folk-lore, and place-names

of Orkney, Shetland, and the North of Scotland," and to print the results of such studies. The contents of the first two numbers of the "Miscellany" include articles on: Two Jacobean Sonnets Written in Orkney (J. S. Clouston), Dividing Seaweed 100 Years Ago (J. T. Smith Leask), Some Old-time Shetlandic Wrecks (R. S. Bruce), An Arcadian Battle, a Hundred Years Ago (J. T. Smith Leask), The Authorship of Orneyinga Saga (J. Stefánsson), A Legend of Shetland from Fljótsdaela Saga. I (W. G. Collingwood). The Orkney and Shetland records include: Extracts from Adam of Bremen referring to the Earliest Bishops of Orkney, and other later documents of similar import and of an ecclesiastical nature; Orkney and Shetland Sasines, 1623-24. The President of the Viking Club is W. G. Collingwood, M. A., F. S. A., the Honorary President Dr. Hans Hildebrand, Antiquary Royal of Sweden. It appears that Canada has one Orkney and Shetland Society, at Toronto; the United States three, at Buffalo, Chicago, and Portland, Oregon.

CULTURA ESPAÑOLA.—In 1906 was begun in Madrid the publication of *Cultura Española*, a journal devoted to history, literature, philology, fine arts, philosophy, international questions, pedagogy, etc., and having among its editors and contributors some of the most distinguished Spanish men of letters and science, artists, etc. Americanist studies, folk-lore, etc., are properly represented in the programme of the new periodical. Among the articles in the first number is one by Menéndez Pidal on "Los Romances Tradicionales en América;" in the third number a valuable folk-lore contribution by M. Jules Humbert on "El Arbol de la Vida en Orinoco,"—treating of the *moriche* palm among the Indians (Tamanacos, etc.) of the Orinoco.

OWING to an error, the statement was omitted that the Tlingit myths published in the last number of the Journal are translations from the work of Veniaminov, "Description of the Unalashka Group of Islands," vol. iii, pp. 36-55.

LOCAL MEETINGS.

MISSOURI BRANCH.

THE Missouri Folk-Lore Society held its second annual meeting at Washington University, St. Louis, February 8, 1908. Papers were read as follows:—

1. "Current Superstitions," Miss Mary A. Owen, St. Joseph.
2. "Survivals of old German Marriage-Customs among the Low Germans of West Missouri," Dr. William G. Bek, Columbia.
3. "The Creation Myth from Calabar," Mrs. A. C. Woods, St. Louis.
4. "Yiddish Folk Stories and Songs in St. Louis." Miss Leah R. Yoffie, St. Louis.
5. "Folk-Lore of the Kaw or Kansas Indians," Rev. J. Spencer, Slater.

The Society passed memorial resolutions upon the death of Mr. Newell, which occurred just after its first meeting, and of Miss Dalton, Librarian of the Missouri Historical Society, and first treasurer of the Missouri Folk-Lore Society, which occurred June 13, 1907.

Officers for 1908 were elected as follows:—